

Latin Envoy Nominee Says U.S. Can't Impose Accord

By PHILIP TAUBMAN
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 20 — President Reagan's choice to serve as special envoy to Central America, Richard B. Stone, told a Senate subcommittee today that the United States would try to bring opposing groups in the region to the bargaining table but "cannot impose" a settlement or act as a negotiator.

Saying that he was not optimistic about the prospects for success, Mr. Stone told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the proper American role as mediator was one of "inducement, invitation and support rather than coercion or imposition."

In a 90-minute appearance before the panel that had the atmosphere of a forthcoming trial, Mr. Stone, a former Democratic Senator from Florida and a member of the committee, was warmly greeted by his former colleagues and told his nomination was "a big step" at large would win quick approval by the Senate. The committee chairman, Charles H. Percy, Republican of Illinois,

said Mr. Stone's nomination would probably be voted on by the committee at its meeting next Tuesday.

In his testimony, Mr. Stone repeated previous warnings by the Reagan Administration that El Salvador faces a loss of United States aid if human rights abuses, particularly killings by rightist forces, are not stopped. Mr. Stone, however, said he felt El Salvador was making progress on human rights.

Let's Be a Friend

Specifically, he told the committee that Salvadoran Government officials had assured him that five former National Guardsmen accused of killing four American churchwomen in El Salvador in 1980 would be brought to trial this year. "On my next visit to El Salvador," Mr. Stone said, "I will press as hard as I can for an early trial."

Mr. Stone, in comments that he said were meant to reassure Central American nations that the United States would not try to dictate the terms of any peace agreements, stressed that gov-

ernments in the region should be encouraged to pursue negotiating initiatives already under way.

"My role is to foster and promote discussions, not to pre-empt them," Mr. Stone said. "Let's be a friend and supporter rather than telling them what to do. The agenda for negotiations in Central America must be maintained by Central Americans. Efforts by the United States to be a negotiator could upset those initiatives."

To make negotiations easier, Mr. Stone said he would visit Central America soon after he is confirmed by the Senate, and he told the committee that he would be willing to meet with guerrilla leaders in El Salvador in an effort to persuade them to sit down for discussions with Government leaders.

Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, the panel's ranking Democratic, raised the only discordant note about Mr. Stone's suitability to serve as special envoy. "You're going into this job with such a hard-line image it may be

difficult for you," Mr. Pell said.

Mr. Pell did not elaborate, but an aide said later that the comment was a reference to Mr. Stone's longstanding identification with Cuban-Americans in Florida, a bastion of anti-Communism, and his work as a lobbyist for the Guatemalan Government from February 1981 to March 1982. In that period the Guatemalan Government, headed by Gen. Romeo Lucas Garcia, was severely criticized by the United States for human rights abuses.

After the hearing Larry Birns, director of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a group that has generally opposed Reagan Administration policies in Central America, said: "It is disgraceful that this nomination didn't get the close scrutiny that it deserves. The issue at stake is Stone's integrity. He says he wants to improve Guatemala's human rights performance. Our inclination is that he was a paid agent for Latin America's worst human rights violator in order to lift the U.S. arms embargo against his client."



The New York Times, George Thomas
Richard B. Stone and his wife, Marlene, at hearing yesterday.

PRESIDENT DEFENDS HIS LATIN POLICIES

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port Reagan Against the Fifth Column of Andropov in the Congress." A flatbed truck drove past the auditorium with a long dummy rocket pointed skyward and bearing a sign: "MX-Yes!"

"Viva! Viva!" the audience cried after Mr. Reagan strode forth to the tune of "Guanabana."

The President stirred the crowd deeply in describing the Castro Government as the conduit in "a new colonialism" threatening the Americas with "insurgents armed and directed by a faraway power."

"The Soviet Union," the President continued, "with all its military might, with its massive subsidy to the Cuban economy, can't make the system produce anything but repression and terror."

Contending that there was "strong evidence" of Cuban involvement in the illicit drug traffic that flows through Miami, Mr. Reagan demanded an accounting from the Havana Government on whether this was "officially sanctioned."

What the Critics Say

In mentioning Theodore Roosevelt's cavalryman's role in helping to win Cuban independence in 1902, President Reagan cited his use of the adage, "Speak softly and carry a big stick."

"Well," Mr. Reagan said, turning this remark on his Congressional opponents, "there are plenty of soft speakers around, but that's where the similarity ends."

Congressional critics say the President is exaggerating the Communist role in Central America's historic problems of poverty and instability. They are trying to limit covert military aid for Nicaraguan insurgents and the President's request for military and economic aid to shore up the Government of El Salvador. Critics contend that by portraying communist civil wars in terms of the East-West struggle, Mr. Reagan invites an increase in the trouble.

In response, the President said there were "roadblocks in our path." He dealt with criticism that El Salvador's Government is guilty of authoritarian abuses by cautioning against being "immobilized by fear or apathy by those who suggest that because our friends are imperfect we should not help them."

"There are far too many things to find excuses to do nothing," he said in a speech that was repeatedly interrupted by cheers and applause.

"We must realize," the President said, "our friends cannot be expected to stand unarmed against insurgents who have been armed to the teeth by the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan axis. Any excuse for not providing our friends the weapons they need to defend themselves is a prescription for disaster."

Past and Future Support

The President chose an ideal setting for focusing pressure on Congress for his Latin American campaign. He visited La Esquina de Tejas Restaurant in the Little Havana section of Miami where Cuban refugees of the Castro revolution have built an economic and political power base. The predominantly Republican, conservative area voted overwhelmingly for Mr. Reagan in 1980, and White House political advisers hope to use the Hispanic vote to help ignite the President's as yet unannounced re-election bid.

The President also announced that he was appointing Dr. Jose Sorzano as deputy United States Representative to the United Nations.

Cuba Ridicules Reagan

HAVANA, May 20 (Reuters) — Cuba today compared President Reagan to the wartime Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels.

"Never before the arrival in the White House of the ex-Hollywood actor have lies been institutionalized so much as today," the official policy of an editorial in the official newspaper Granma said.

The editorial also said Goebbels, if he could have heard the President's recent statements on Central America, would have said, "Master, I bow before you."

GIVE TO THE FRESH AIR FUND

Text of President Reagan's Speech on Threat to Latin America

WASHINGTON, May 20 (AP) — Following is the advance text of President Reagan's speech today in Miami to an audience of Cuban-Americans as made available by the White House:

It is a great pleasure for me to be with a group of Americans who have demonstrated how much can be accomplished when people are free. Many of you arrived in this country with little more than the shirts on your backs and a desire to improve your well-being and that of your family. You came with a willingness to work and, yes, a consuming passion for liberty. There is a name for this kind of spirit. It's called the American spirit, and there's no limit to what it can do.

Examples of this spirit abound. Jorge Mas, Chairman of the Cuban American National Foundation, came here 20 years ago and worked as a milkman to support his family. He owns a construction company that provides hundreds of people with meaningful employment. When he isn't running his company, he's immersed in activities like this one, trying to protect the freedom that's been so important in his life. Jorge Mas, thank you for all you've done and all you're doing.

But Jorge's success story is no isolated example. There are many more. You know them. People like Armando Cordy, who came here alone as a child, his parents unable to leave Cuba, so he was sent to an orphanage and then to a foster home. It took courage for this little boy to begin his new life. Now, at 33, he has a successful business and a family. He is a testament to the American dream.

World renowned ballet dancer, Fernando Bufores, is a Cuban American.

Good for Each Other

In my administration we've got Jose Marti and Casanova. We've got Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank.

The list goes on and on. People from every walk of life, of every race and family background, have made their mark in just about every corner of American society. A few months ago I was honored to welcome to the White House a famous runner, Alberto Salazar. I didn't know what to say. He gave me some running shoes, but I'm not sure what kind of race he wanted me to run in.

Clearly, America has been good for you, but you have also been good for America and for Miami. Twenty-five years ago there were those who thought Miami had reached its peak and was on the way down. The economy seemed stagnant and there was little hope in sight. Today, Miami is a vibrant international center, a gateway to Latin America.

The stark contrast between your life and that of the neighbors and loved ones you left behind in Cuba is evidence to the relationship between freedom and prosperity.

Contrast in Wealth

About 10 million people still live in Cuba, as compared to about a million Cuban Americans — people with the same traditions and cultural heritage; yet the Cubans in the United States, with only one-tenth the number, produce almost two times the wealth of those they left behind. So don't let anyone fool you. What's happening in Cuba is not a failure of the Cuban people, it's a failure of Fidel Castro and of Communism.

The Soviet Union, with all its military might, with its massive subsidy to the Cuban economy, can't make the system produce anything but repression and terror.

Cuban Americans understand, perhaps better than many of their fellow



President Reagan being served a traditional Cuban meal yesterday at La Esquina de Tejas restaurant in the Little Havana section of Miami.

citizens, that freedom is not just the heritage of the people of the United States, but the birthright of the hemisphere. We, in the Americas, are descended from hearty souls, pioneers, men and women with courage to leave the familiar and start fresh in the New World. We are, by and large, people who share the same fundamental values of God, family, work, freedom, democracy and justice.

Perhaps the greatest tie between us can be seen in the incredible number of cathedrals and churches found throughout the hemisphere. Our forefathers took the worship of God seriously.

An Allen Philosophy

Our struggles for independence and the fervor for liberty unleashed by these noble endeavors bind the people of the New World together. In the annals of human freedom, names like Bolivar and Marti rank equally with Jefferson and Washington. These were individuals of courage and integrity. They left for us a legacy, a treasure beyond all imagination.

But today a new colonialism threatens the Americas. Insurgents, armed and directed by a faraway power, seek to impose a philosophy that is alien to everything in which we believe and goes against our birthright. It is a philosophy that holds truth and liberty in contempt and is a self-declared enemy of the worship of God. Wherever put into practice, it has brought repression and human deprivation. There is no clearer example of this than Cuba.

The people of Cuba have seen their strong independent labor movement, which existed before 1959, destroyed by a regime that shouts slogans about its concern for the workers.

The church has been suppressed — including the right of the church to broadcast and print God's word. It's a new fascist regime, where freedom of speech and press of every opinion group has been stamped into the ground with ideological zeal. And it does not stop there.

A Different Course

Young Cubans are pressed into the military and sent to faraway lands, where hundreds have been killed, to

do the bidding of a foreign government, defiling their hands with the blood of others, not serving their own interests but propping up leaders who have no popular support.

But the people of Central America, with our support, have chosen a different course — freedom, pluralism and free economic development. They — Jose Marti and Casanova — have chosen the path of freedom, and that's the way it's going to be.

The declining Castro economy continues to make a grotesque joke out of the ideological claims that Marxism is for the people. Nearly a quarter century after the Cuban revolution, the Cuban people continue to face shortages and rationing of basic necessities. Once one of the most prosperous countries in Latin America, it is rapidly becoming one of the most economically backward in the region, thanks to the Communist system.

And now there is strong evidence that Castro officials are involved in the drug trade, peddling drugs like criminals, profiting on the misery of the addicted. I would like to take this opportunity to call on the Castro regime for an accounting. Is this drug peddling simply the act of renegade officials, or is it officially sanctioned? The world deserves an answer.

Cuban Independence Day

On this day we celebrate Cuban independence, something special for the people of the United States as well as Cuba.

Eighty-five years ago we joined together and fought side by side, shedding our blood to free Cuba from the yoke of colonialism. Sadly, we must acknowledge that Cuba is no longer independent. But let me assure you, we will not let this same fate befall others in the hemisphere, we will not permit the Soviets and their henchmen in Havana to deprive others of their freedom, and someday Cuba itself will be free.

The United States stands at a crossroads.

We can no longer ignore this hemisphere and simply hope for the best.

Jose Marti, the hero of Cuban independence, a man who spent so many years of his life with us in the United States said it well: "It is not enough to come to the defense of freedom with epic and intermittent efforts when it is weakened at moments that appear critical. Every moment is critical for the preservation of freedom."

Now is the time to act reasonably and decisively to avert a crisis and prevent other people from suffering the same fate as your brothers and sisters in Cuba.

Ironically, our biggest obstacle is not foreign threats but a lack of confidence and understanding. There are too many trying to find excuses to do nothing.

American People Will Judge

If we are immobilized by fear or apathy by those who suggest that because our friends are imperfect we should not help them, if those trying to throw roadblocks in our path succeed and interpose themselves at a time when a crisis could still be averted, the American people will know who is responsible and judge them accordingly.

But as I told the Congress a few weeks ago, we've still got time and there is much that can be done.

The Congress can, for example, enact those trade and tax provisions of the Caribbean Basin Initiative that will put the power of free enterprise to work in the Caribbean. The Congress rightfully believes that we must not totally focus our efforts on building the military capabilities of our friends. I agree that it's 75 percent of what we've asked for is economic, not military aid.

But we must realize, our friends cannot be expected to stand unarmed against insurgents who've been armed to the teeth by the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan axis.

Any excuse for not providing our friends the weapons they need to defend themselves is a prescription for disaster. And again, those who advocate ignoring the legitimate defense needs of those under attack will be held accountable if our national security is put in jeopardy.

Latin America's Impact

Teddy Roosevelt is known to have said, "Speak softly and carry a big stick." Well, there are plenty of soft speakers around, but that's where the similarity ends.

Let there be no mistake. What happens in Latin America and the Caribbean will not only affect our nation but also will shape America's image throughout the world. If we can act decisively so close to home, who will believe us anywhere? Knowing this, I recently nominated a special envoy, a strong leader, an individual eminently qualified to represent us in this vital region and to work closely with the Congress to insure the fullest possible bipartisan cooperation.

He is a man in whom I have the highest confidence and respect, a man you know well, former Senator Richard Stone.

When Senator Stone is confirmed, he will be directly involved with those seeking regional solutions to the problems in Central America.

We are fully supportive of good faith efforts, like the so-called Good Faith Group, seeking to calm tensions and avert conflict. We hope that they will be able to make progress. And we welcome the participation of all nations in Central America.

There is, of course, one top priority item on the agenda I've yet to mention.

Support for Radio Marti

The Cuban people, as is the case in most Communist dictatorships, have been cut off from information. Many of the folks who have come to America

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